A SERMON

Preach'd before the

University

OF

CAMBRIDGE

On the 9th of *September*,

Being the Day of *Publick Thanksgiving* for the Deliverance of His MAJESTIES Sacred Perſon, His Royal Brother, and the Government, from the late Helliſh Fanatick Conſpiracy.

By MILES BARNE, D.D. Chaplain in Ordinary to His MAJESTY, and Fellow of St *Peters* College.

Publiſh'd by Authority.

CAMBRIDGE,
Printed by *J. Hayes*, Printer to the Univerſity, for *R. Green*, Bookſeller in *Cambridge*. 1683.

A SERMON

Preach'd before the

University

OF

CAMBRIDGE

On the 9th of September,

Being the Day of Publick Thanksgiving for the Deliverance of His MAJESTIES Sacred Person, His Royal Brother, and the Government, from the late Hellish Fanatick Conspiracy.

By Miles Barne, D.D. Chaplain in Ordinary to His MAJESTY, and Fellow of S. Peters College.

Publish'd by Authority.

CAMBRIDGE,

Printed by J. Hayes, Printer to the University, for R. Owen, Bookseller in Cheapside, 1[illegible]

A SERMON

Preach'd before the

University

OF

CAMBRIDGE.

S. Luke 19. v. 14.

But his Citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to Reign over us.

WHich words are part of an eminent Parable spoken by the King of the Jews in his Triumphant Procession to Jerusalem, which had rais'd great hopes in the Disciples, and others his Countrymen who accompanied Him in that Glorious March,

that the Kingdom of God, which they had ſo long expected, and ſo earneſtly deſired, ſhould now appear, that the Kingdom ſhould even now *be reſtored unto Iſrael*, i. e. in their carnal conceits, that He would now in a moſt ſolemn manner proclaim Himſelf a Mighty Monarch, make Jeruſalem the Chief Seat of his Empire, promote them to the Higheſt Places of Truſt and Dignity, and that they ſhould enjoy all the meaſures of Softneſs, Eaſe, and Plenty under his moſt Peacefull, Proſperous and laſting Reign. To correct the Vanity of this fancy, in his more immediate Approach to this Famous Metropolis, He tells them of a certain Nobleman, *i. e.* One born Heir to a Crown, who went into a far Country to take Poſſeſſion of a Kingdom, of his returning again to his Countrymen in an Eminent manner, and in the mean time of his committing to their Care a certain Fund of Money, which they were to imploy in the way of Merchandiſe, that ſo He might receive an improvement, and they a ſuitable Reward. The far Country ſpoken of ſufficiently confuted their Error in thinking Jeruſalem ſhould be the Chief Seat of his Empire, and by making his ſervants Factors and Merchants in his abſence, and requiring an improvement at his Return, they

had little reason to dream that his Kingdom should priviledge Sloth and Idleness, or secure the injoyment of carnal Pleasures.

The words of the Text give the reason why He went into a far Country; because his Citizens hated Him, and manifested their Hatred in that Sullen undutifull Message, which they sent after, saying, *We will not have this man to Reign over us. Stat pro ratione voluntas.* Which well enough became the mouths of such Turbulent, Rebellious Citizens as the Jews were in General, but is yet better suited to the rude humour, and ungovern'd Zeal of the Pharisees in Particular, who towards the latter end of the Jewish state, and at the time of our Saviours Appearance upon Earth, had work'd themselves into the Management of all Affairs both Sacred and Civil: nothing of moment pass'd, but was directed by their Councels, nothing of weight but was influenc'd by their assistance: and what trusty Managers they were appeared by their involving their miserable Citizens into the most deplorable Calamities which ever befell a People since the Creation.

The Jews were always a moody headstrong People, impatient of any kind of Government. *Theocracy* it self could not please

them; for they murmured againſt *Moſes* and *Aaron* who had wrought ſuch wonders for them in the land of Egypt, led them through the Red Sea, as upon dry ground, and fed them with food from Heaven in the Wilderneſs. They made not ſuitable returns to *Joſhua* for conducting them into the promiſed Land: they were prone upon all Occaſions to impeach their Judges. The Votes and Decrees of the *Sanedrim* were not always ſo dutifully receiv'd: at length having forc't God by their importunities to give them a King after the manner of the Nations, they ſoon repented their Choice, grew weary of Him, before He was well ſetled in his Throne, or had exercis'd any remarkable Juriſdiction over them. For their frequent Murmurings, Tumults and Rebellions God often puniſh'd them with Wars, Peſtilence and Famine, with in-bred Diſtempers and Forein Captivity. At the time of the Meſſia's appearance theſe ungratefull Citizens had forfeited all their ancient Charters, all the Priviledges they could challenge in the Right of *Abraham* the Faithfull, and were become Tributaries to the Infidel *Romans*.

The Meſſias appears as *Moſes* had done before in this great juncture of Hardſhips. They adhere to their Oppreſſors, and ſhame-

fully reject their Saviour, by libelling his Government in General, by throwing contempt upon his Perſon in Particular, *Is not this the Carpenters Son?* by traducing his Life and Converſation, making Him a Wine-bibber, a friend of Publicans and Sinners; by making baſe Reflections upon his Diſciples and Chief Miniſters; by undervaluing his Doctrines, as inconſiſtent with the Pomp and Grandeur of the *Roman* Empire, by making him an Innovator, a Diſturber of the Eſtabliſh'd Religion, and laſtly (as the height of their Malice) by Proclaiming Him a Traitor and Enemy to *Caſar*, as having ſiniſter Ends to ſet up a fifth Monarchy, in Oppoſition to the fourth.

But when our Saviour by his Exemplary Life, Peaceable Doctrines, and Mighty Miracles had overcome all theſe Falſe and Malicious Accuſations: When by his willing ſubmiſſion to Authority, the painfull Agonies of the Croſs, his patient Comportment under them, and the terrible Prodigies which accompanied his giving up the Ghoſt, He had convinc'd the Centurion and others that He was a *juſt man* and no other than the *Son of God.* When their ſealing the ſtone and ſetting a Watch could no longer detain Him in the Grave; when their Sham-Plot in giving out *that his Diſciples came by*

night,

night, and ſtole Him away whilſt they ſlept, could no longer obſcure the Glories of his Reſurrection; in ſhort when in the grief and anguiſh of their tormented Souls, they perceiv'd that He was gone into his far Country, there to be Inveſted with Majeſty and Dominion far above all Principalities and Powers, then to let the world ſee, that Citizens will be Citizens, Jews Jews, and Phariſees Phariſees ſtill, when all their Pretences were baffled, and they reduc'd to the laſt Effort of obſtinate Rebels, to own Rebellion for Rebellions ſake, then they Magiſterioufly reſolve themſelves into the Sovereignty of their own Wills, and conclude againſt all Government in a direct *Nolumus Hanc, We will not have this man to Reign over us.*

But was it then in their choice whether He ſhould Reign over them, or not? Infatuate Rebels! thus to oppoſe their own impotent Wills againſt the Councels and Determination of Heaven, where it ſtood Recorded in the Books of Eternity, *that his Scepter ſhould be an everlaſting Scepter, and his Dominion endure throughout all Generations.* This mad Decree then could only ſhew the folly and impiety of theſe Rebellious Citizens: for the King whom they rejected did Reign over them. 1. In his Mercies, in the Converſion

version of 3000 of them at one Sermon of S. *Peters* their Prime Apostle, and Principal Teacher. 2. In Judgement, at his second Advent, but first Eminent judicial Return, after his Glorious Instalment in his far Country; in the Destruction of Jerusalem, when these Rebellious Citizens, or their Descendents suffered all the Extremities of temporal Calamities. 3. He shall Reign over them at his third and last terrible Advent, when He shall come with all the Solemnities of Majesty to judge the world, pronounce Sentence upon these wicked Citizens, and make them the Vassals of Eternal Vengeance, the certain Doom of all unrepenting Rebels.

From this short Illustration of the Text I hope it appears how well it suits with the Business of the Day, a Day of Publick Thanksgiving for the Deliverance of his Majesty, his Royal Brother, and the whole Government from the Hellish Conspiracy of Fanatical Republican Rage.

I shall therefore, 1. Shew the Hatred of these Citizens to Monarchical Government in General.

2. Insist on the several ways they pursued in the carrying on this damnable Conspiracy in Particular.

3. Take notice that when these fail'd, like

the

the desperate Citizens in the Text, they betook themselves to desperate means, and wickedly resolv'd that the King should not Reign over them.

4. And lastly shew the folly and impiety of such mad Resolves, for the King whom they devoted to Destruction do's and shall Reign over them.

First, The Hatred of these Citizens to Monarchical Government in General. You have been already told that the Jews were always a Rebellious Generation, but never so bad, as when the Pharisees had got so much the ascendent over them. I am sorry to tell you that the frequent Tumults and Insurrections which have infested the Reigns of our *British* Kings, gave occasion to that Sarcastical saying; *Rex Angliæ, Rex Diabolorum*; but you may tell your selves that these Devils never acted more like Devils, than since they were possess'd and guided by the Turbulent Spirit of our Modern Pharisees the Presbyterians; who are the very Citizens that from their first Institution have shewn their Hatred against Monarchs and Monarchy. And they must be content, which perhaps they Glory in, to bear a Principal part in most of the unnatural Wars and Commotions, which have happen'd in Christendom, since they took upon them to

carry

carry on their Bleſſed Work of Reformation. The reſt of the Schiſmaticks are but their Spawn, and conſequently included in this Denomination, though like a *Cadmean* Progeny, they have always fought againſt one another. And to the eternal honour of Presbytery be it ſpoken, that *John Calvin* confirm'd his Diſcipline the ſame year, that *Ignatius Loyala* the firſt Founder of the *Jeſuits*, was choſen their firſt General in a ſolemn manner; and that as He founded his Preſbytery in Treaſon and Rebellion, the Citizens having prepar'd his way by expelling from *Geneva* their Lawfull Prince and Governour, which violent Act was encourag'd, approved and confirm'd by *Calvin*; ſo has it ever ſince been carried on by Schiſm and Sedition. Never was it receiv'd into any Church, but it preſently diſſolv'd the Catholick Unity of Faith, and broke the Bond of Peace; never into any State which it did not embroyl and throw into very dangerous Convulſions; never into any family which it did not divide, and ſet at variance; never did it get poſſeſſion of any ſingle man, whom it did not ſtrangely tranſform with Pride and Moroſeneſs, made him unfit for civil Society and common converſation. Are not the Writings of the Leaders in this Schiſm, not only ſtuff'd

with irreverent and reproachfull Language againſt the Sacred Perſons of Princes, but likewiſe with dethroning Principles, and King-killing Doctrines: witneſs ſeveral paſſages in *Calvins* Inſtitutions, and other his Works. That peſtilent Pamphlet entituled *Junius Brutus* or *Vindicia contra Tyrannos*, ſuppoſed to be written by *Beza*, his Succeſſor; and to mention no more, *Knox*'s Appellation to the Communality, and *Buchanans Jus Regni apud Scotos*; a Book which for ſubtlety and wicked poſition ſcorns to give place to the *Jeſuit*, which nevertheleſs He had the impudence to dedicate to King *James*.

In theſe you may find Dignities evil ſpoken of, Majeſty reviled; that a Sovereignty is erected either in the People, or the ſubordinate Magiſtrate, that they are the Original of all juſt Power, that the Supreme Magiſtrate is proſtituted to their Luſts, that wicked and irreligious Kings, *i. e.* all whom they pleaſe to call ſo, may be queſtion'd, and conſequently dethron'd, ſentenc'd and put to Death. If it be ſaid that theſe are but the Doctrines of private men, and therefore unjuſtly chargeable upon the whole Order; I anſwer, that *Calvin* and *Beza* were more than Private men, they were leading Foundation Apoſtles, their Authority was as great, and held as

Infal-

Infallible at *Geneva*, as ever the Popes was at *Rome*. Beſides this is the very ſame argument which the Papiſts uſe to clear their Church from the Guilt and Scandal of *Bellarmine*, *Mariana*, *Sanctarellus*, or any other depoſing King-killing *Jeſuit*. For we do not find that the dethroning Power, which theſe frontleſs Flatterers have ſeated in the Pope, is either made an additional Article to *Pius's* Creed, or trick't into the Canons of the later Editions of the Councel of *Trent*: beſides, this Depoſing Principle of the *Jeſuites*, has been publickly cenſured and condemn'd as erroneous and impious in ſeveral Forein Univerſities, written againſt by Men of the *Romiſh* Communion, and is moſt ſolidly and unanſwerably confuted by *Barclay* in his excellent Book *de Poteſtate Papæ, &c.* which Book is dedicated to *Clement* the Eighth. But have the Presbyterians in any of their Synods cenſured or condemn'd the pernicious Tenets of *Calvin* or *Beza*? has any of them had the Grace to diſown or write againſt their dethroning Doctrines? if they have, their Books have proved very ineffectual, for if we paſs from their Principles to their Practices, we ſhall find that the Presbyterian has always been a Turbulent Imperious Bloudy Religion: that it has embroyl'd all the Kingdoms and

Eſtates in Chriſtendom, where it got footing, with Rebellion, Civil War and Miſery, from its firſt Riſe at *Geneva*, to its remove into *France*, from thence into the Netherlands, from thence into *Scotland*, and from *Scotland* to its unfortunate Arrival into this Iſland. 'Tis not expected I ſhould enumerate the ſeveral wicked Plots and Deſigns of theſe Hypocrites, during the Reigns of Queen *Elizabeth*, King *James*, and King *Charles*. This is the buſineſs of an Hiſtorian, and is already faithfully done to our hands, by the Reverend Dr. *Heylin* and others who have writ the Hiſtories of Presbytery and *Calviniſm*. I ſhall only at preſent lay to their Charge all the Bloud that was ſhed, all the violence that was acted, during our late unnatural Wars: that they were the Dethroners and Murtherers of their Glorious Sovereign under a cloak of Juſtice, and Mock-formalities of Law. A Villany of ſo deep a Dy, that the Roman Conclave bluſhes at it, and was never debated and reſolved, but in the Deep Infernal Councels of a Presbyterian Conſiſtory: and is there not at this day great reaſon to charge them home with this Maſterpiece of all Iniquity, ſince they have taken ſuch great Advantage of the late Popiſh Plot, that the guilty Papiſts had almoſt made them innocent? and there have not been

been wanting ſome Church-Trimmers, ſtill retaining a fellow-feeling for the Cauſe, who from the Pulpit have endeavour'd to clear them, and lay the Guilt of that Horrid Murther chiefly upon the Popiſh Prieſts; though they cannot find the name of one Papiſt in the whole Liſt of true-Proteſtant Regicides. But ſuppoſing the *Jeſuits* did invent and direct in the Tiring Room, what they acted on the open Stage: This will be ſo far from excuſing, that it adds to their Crime, and makes them paſs for what they would be loth to be thought, fools as well as ſomething elſe. For no man dares ſay a Presbyterian is the leſs dangerous for being influenc'd and guided by *Jeſuitical* Councels. May we not now expoſe their Bloudy and Treaſonable Practices to the world, ſince almoſt five and thirty years have expired, ſince the perpetration of that execrable Parricide, and they have not yet Repented? Since almoſt four and twenty years have run out, ſince His Majeſties Happy Reſtauration, whom theſe abandon'd Citizens forc't into a far Country, not to receive a Kingdom, but to be expos'd to all the Hardſhips and Miſeries of Exile and Baniſhment, and they have not yet Repented? Since all this time they have owed their Lives, too plentifull

For-

Fortunes, and dangerous Liberty to a Gracious Act of Oblivion at firſt, and repeated Acts of Indulgence ſince, and they have not yet Repented? Since all along His Majeſties Merciſull, Peaceſull and Godlike Reign, theſe Ungrateſull Vipers have been warm'd with the Sunſhine of his Favours, ſome of them received into places of Truſt and Dignity, and they have not yet Repented? An Obſtinacy and Ingratitude not to be met with, but in an apoſtate Angel who cannot, and a Presbyterian who will not Repent. Laſtly ſince they were even now Acting the ſame dire part over again, and we are (God be Praiſed) in the very Act of offering up our moſt ſolemn Praiſes and unfeigned Thanks to God Almighty for the Deliverance of His Sacred Majeſty, His Deareſt Brother, and the whole Government, from the Helliſh Conſpiracy of theſe Sons of Perdition; which brings me in the 2d place to conſider the ſeveral ways they tryed to carry on this Devilliſh Conſpiracy in particular.

Firſt, Then, as His Majeſty obſerves in His Declaration, this Malevolent Party for ſeveral years laſt paſt made it their buſineſs to promote Sedition by falſe News, Libellous Pamphlets, and other wicked Arts, whereby they endeavour'd not only to ren-

der

der His Government odious, His moſt faithfull Subjects ſuſpected to the people, but even to excite a diſlike and hatred of His Royal Perſon. And this is the common Engine, which they have always plaid againſt the Government. They have always had *Martin-mar-prelats* and *Marvels* to ſanctify Lies, Scurrility and Railing to the ſervice of *the good old Cauſe*. But of late we have been infeſted with ſwarms of Peſtilent Libels, which like Locuſts overſpread the land, poyſon'd the minds of the people, devoured all the little remains of Duty, Allegiance, Civility and common Honeſty, which ſwell'd their Breaſts with Diſcontents, Jealouſies, Revenge and Cruelties, and fitted them for the moſt Deſperate and Barbarous undertakings.

Secondly, They took the Advantage of a Popiſh Plot, and made an Army of Pilgrims, with black Bills in their hands, as formidable as if *Hannibal* himſelf had been at the Gates. However pernicious that Deſign was in it ſelf, it was by them improved into more fatal Conſequences, and they ſoon made no other uſe of the Popiſh Plot, but as of a ſtale to carry on a Fanatical Conſpiracy. For theſe Maſters in the Trade were not now to learn what has been long ſince obſerv'd, that the Prero-

roga-

rogative never ſuffered, no great Statesman has ever been diſgrac't, nor the Church of *England* it ſelf (nay the Liberties of the people) ever wounded, but a dreadfull Outcry of Popery has ſtill preceded. And indeed *Hinc illæ Lacryme*. For this Popiſh Plot, though from its firſt Diſcovery proſecuted with a very ſevere and rigorous Juſtice, was nevertheleſs under pretence of a partial proſecution thrown upon the King, the Council, all faithfull Miniſters of State, Judges of the Land, and Loyal Clergy of the Church of *England*, nay at length the Government was brought into the Conſpiracy for its own Diſſolution: in ſhort, no man could ſhew his fidelity to the Monarchy, by oppoſing their antimonarchical Projects, but He was preſently blaſted with the odious Title of a Court or Church-Papiſt.

Thirdly, By this means they ſecured to themſelves Factious Elections for ſucceeding Parliaments, and none were now thought ſo fit to be entruſted with our Liberties and Properties, as either Old Commonwealthsmen, who had formerly been the ſhamefull Betrayers of both, or elſe ſuch as by their untoward carriage in later Seſſions, had manifeſted their Diſcontents and Hatred to the Government. The unwarrantable proceed-

ceedings and Seditious Votes of the late Commons are well enough known to you all, yet you muſt give me leave upon this Occaſion to bring ſome of them to your Memories. And I ſhall begin with their pragmatical intermedling with the Succeſſion, a thing too Sacred to be touch'd by their unhallowed hands, their Sawcy, iterated preſſing it upon His Majeſty, after He had ſo often declared it was a point which in His Royal Judgement, ſo nearly concerned Him in Honour, Juſtice and Conſcience, that He could never conſent to it. And great Reaſon was there for His making that Reſolution, ſince 'twas always ſuſpicious, but is now manifeſt that the Diſinheriſon of His Royal Highneſs was carried on with that Violence, to facilitate the Dethroning of the King. To ſay nothing to the rude form obſerv'd in the penning of this Bill, that 'twas drawn up by a Perſon ſince accuſed of High Treaſon; to paſs by the Ingratitude of the Contrivers, againſt a Prince of ſuch Eminent Virtues, who has ventur'd His Royal Bloud as frankly for the good of His Country, as the meaneſt Subject in it, and who was even then Actually manifeſting His unalterable Loyalty and Affection to His Sovereign in reducing *Scotland* to their Obedience; and we have at this hour great

reason to be thankfull to Him for His Wise and Prosperous Conduct in that Affair; take the Villany of this whole procedure from this one instance, the chiefest arguments which I have hitherto met with, for the Excluding a Popish Successor on the account of his Religion, are stolen out of *Dolemen* the *Jesuit*, which Book was written designedly to hinder King *James* a Protestant Successor's coming to the Crown. *Flectere si nequeunt superos.* And I do here publickly declare, what was always my judgement, that I do believe no humane Acts or Power in the world can *de jure* hinder the Descent of the Crown upon the next Heir of the Bloud, which is his unalterable Right by Religion, Law, History and Reason.

Next call to your minds their strange Illegal Votes. That if the King should come to any violent Death, they would Revenge it to the utmost on the Papists. Whereby they both prompted any bold Enthusiastick *Rome* to commit the Execrable Parricide, and irritated the Rabble to the Massacre of innocent Persons. That whosoever should lend the King any money upon the several Branches of His Revenue, should be adjudg'd to hinder the sitting of Parliaments, and be responsible

for

for it in Parliament; whereby they not only took away all hopes of neceſſary Supplies, tyed up, as much as in them lay, the hands of all Loyal Subjects, but moreover, as His Majeſty complains, would have reduced Him to a more helpleſs condition, than the meaneſt of His Subjects. Their reſolving that the Proſecution of Diſſenters upon Penal Laws was grievous to the Subject, an encouragement to Popery, and dangerous to the Peace of the Kingdom, whereby they aſſumed to themſelves a Power of ſuſpending Acts of Parliament, of Licencing Riotous and Seditious Conventicles, and added ſtrength and boldneſs to the Leaders of the Faction. If any Loyal Member, though never ſo Eminent for his Talent in ſpeaking, and other Abilities, ſtood up in the Defence of his King or Country, He was either rudely hiſſ't at, or run down with a Train of clamorous Speeches. How that they would have made uſe of an Impeachment to have reſcued a Profeſs't Papiſt, and a notorious Traytor from Puniſhment. How importunately they Addreſs't His Majeſty for Pardons and Penſions for a pack of Profligate Villains, whom they kept in pay to accuſe any man that ſtood in the way to their wicked Deſigns. How they Voted

several Eminent Persons Enemies to the Kingdom, without Process of Law, hearing their Defence, or any Proof, so much as offered against them. Lastly, How that at the same time, when they amused the People with Jealousies, and apprehensions of Tyranny and Oppression, they assumed to themselves an unpresidented Arbitrary Power of taking into Custody their Fellow-Subjects, for Matters no way Relating to Priviledges of Parliament. How they had an Intercourse with Traytors, a Correspondency with the common Agitator for the Conspiracy. A Villain who declares King-killing a Glorious Act, hopes to see Regicides Rewarded by Parliaments, Statues Erected to their Memories, and they styled *Liberatores Patriæ*, *i. e.* in the Blasphemy of the Modern Stile *Saviours of the Nation*. And all this time we must be born in hand, and accurs'd for Tories and Papists if we will not believe them to be true Patriots, the only Assertors of our Religion, Liberties and Properties, that they alone provided for the Safety of His Majesties Sacred Person, and the Dignities of the Imperial Crown.

Fourthly, These audacious Proceedings having forc't His Majesty to an Interval of Parliaments, They obstruct the ordina-

ry Course and Methods of Justice, by pack't *Juratorum Furies*, whereby Faction and Treason became secure and frontless, being now above the reach of the Laws, an Impunity was Proclaim'd to the greatest State-Malefactors, the Principal Conspirator was Rescued out of the Hands of Justice, and Triumphant Medals dispers'd for his Deliverance: such a bare-fac't Affront to Authority as can scarce be Parallel'd. To accomplish this Matchless Violation of Justice, Notorious known Dissenters are brought to the Communion and Sacraments of the Church of *England*, to Capacitate them for Places of Trust, and take Oaths to Conform to the Government which they intend to Destroy, and so become Perjured in the very Act of swearing. And for this they have the Resolution of their own *Casuists*, that an Oath obligeth not in the sense of the Imposer, but the Taker. A more sure and Compendious way of Ruining our Church and State, than the *Jesuit* with all his Equivocations, and Dispensations hath hitherto Attempted. For it is now no longer an open Enemy, but a Familiar Friend that hath done us this Dishonour.

Fifthly, By their Republican Clubs, Riotous Rambles, and Descents into the several

veral Parts of the Nation to number the People, and try the ſtrength of their Party; whilſt their Chief, like another *Abſolon*, takes his Glorious Progreſſes, addreſſeth to the Populace, and receives their Careſſes, inſinuates himſelf into the Minds of the Diſcontented, and alienates their Affections yet farther from their Obedience to their Lawfull Prince.

Sixthly, By Bandying themſelves into an Accurſed Aſſociation, which was neither better, nor worſe, for worſe it could not be, than a tranſcript of the old *Scotch Covenant*, as that was of the *Holy League of France*, which laid three Kingdoms in Bloud, murthered the King, and diſſolv'd the Monarchy. Theſe were the Principal Methods which they purſued in the carrying on their Traiterous Purpoſes; but theſe failing, and their Villanies rendring them every day more and more odious in the ſight of all good Men, and the Unanimous Addreſſes of all Loyal Subjects from all Parts of the Kingdom, Proclaiming a Deteſtation and Abhorrence of their wicked Proceedings, and giving the greateſt aſſurances of Fidelity and Affection to the King and the Eſtabliſh't Government, by a free and Generous Proffer of their Lives and Fortunes in the Defence of Both, they became

desperate, and resolving to trust no longer to the slow Methods of Sedition, betook themselves to open force.

Which brings me to my third Particular, that when these means fail'd, they resolved with the desperate Citizens in the Text, *Nolumus Hunc*, We will not have This King to Reign over us. And this was to be effected either by raising an Army to master His Guards and seize His Person, or by a Barbarous Assassination, and both these Designs were carried on by several Interests at the same time, the Particulars whereof are so Plainly and Methodically set forth in His Majesties Declaration, which has now been twice Publickly read, that it supersedes any further Relation.

I shall therefore very briefly consider the Quality of this Hellish Conspiracy, and then set before your eyes that Scene of Horrour and Desolation which had overspread and blackned the Land in case it had taken Effect.

If we consider the Quality, it is compounded of so many Malignant Ingredients that it looks more like a Confederacy against Religion, Morality and the common Sentiments of Humanity, than a Conspiracy against the Frame, Constitution and Administration of the Government, Ambition,

bition, Avarice, Revenge have often bewitch't men and led them into Treasonable Associations; but this seems to be the sole Result of Abstracted Malice, of men abandon'd to the Curse of a *Reprobate Mind*. For what would they have enjoyed, which they had not, or what could they have desired, which they might not have had? Was not the Chief of the Conspiracy in the quiet Possession of all Places of Trust, Profit, and Honour, which could make him either Happy in himself, serviceable to the Government, or Gratefull to the People? Did not many of the Rest owe their Forfeited Lives, and rais'd Fortunes to His Majesties Grace and Bounty? Were not all of them even glutted with the Blessings of Peace, Plenty and Liberty? Here then is an unparallel'd Ingratitude against a Prince of the Highest Bounties towards them; whose whole Reign hath been so mild and mercifull, that He hath even Exceeded our Saviours Precept of Loving His Enemies, and doing good to those who despitefully use Him. We want not some few Examples in History of some Enthusiastick *Ravillac*, or other Bloudy Assassin, who not regarding the Sacredness of Majesty, has made his way to the Heart of an Imperial Monarch. But for

so

ſo many Flagitious Villains to Complot the Murther of their Lawfull Prince, His Deareſt Brother, the Hopes of the Succeſſion, to Deſign the utter Ruine of the Loyal Intereſt, to carry this on for ſo many Years, in ſo many deliberate Cabals and Conſultations, in defiance of Heaven, and ſo many Providential Diſappointments, to continue all this while without any diſcompoſure of mind, or Remorſe of Conſcience, the Aſſaſſination to be perform'd after ſuch a Barbarous Butcherly manner; this is ſuch a Villany and Obduracy, not to be met with in the Chriſtian world, but in the more obdurate Hearts of Fanaticks, blaſted under the Curſe of an unconverted *Saul*, that all this time they thought they did God good ſervice; but amongſt Fanaticks whoſe Loyalty is Rebellion, whoſe Religion is Treaſon, and whoſe very Goſpel is the Myſtery of Iniquity, laſtly, but amongſt Fanaticks and Atheiſts transform'd into malicious Fiends by the Helliſh Divinity of that Monſter of a Prieſt the Author of *Julian the Apoſtate*, whoſe whole Book is as great an Apoſtacy from the Practice of the *Primitive Chriſtians*, the Precepts of Obedience deliver'd by Chriſt and his Apoſtles, and Chriſtianity it ſelf, as ever the Apoſtate

Judas was guilty of; and is indeed no other than the very Platform of this Hellish Conspiracy, and aims as directly at the eternal Ruine of the Conspirators, as the temporal Death of the King, and the dissolution of the Monarchy.

Secondly, Set before your eyes that Scene of Horrour and Defolation which had overspread the Land, in case this wicked Treason had succeeded. The King, His Royal Brother, the Ministers of State, Judges and Principal Magistrates all slaughter'd after a most inhumane, Savage manner, the Government dissolv'd, our Altars polluted, our Liberties enslav'd, our Properties wrested from us, and all things laid open to the Violence of implacable Men. And indeed who can say, had that Tragedy been begun, how far it would have gone, or where it would have ended? For in case of Opposition it must have been seconded with such a Devastation of Fire and Sword, as never before had been heard of in this Nation. Our streets had been fill'd with the Cries of Widows, and the Fatherless, with Murders, Rapins, Incests, Adulteries, Sacrilege, Massacres, and Conflagration. No Cruelties would have been thought Cruel enough to satiate the Revenge of Fanatick

rick Rage upon Papists and Tories. A sudden Dispatch had been the greatest Favour we could have ask'd, or receiv'd from the hand of so base and merciless an Enemy. For what satisfaction would it have been to any Loyal Subject to have survivʼd the ruines of the Church and State, to have lived in a Land polluted and stainʼd with Royal and Noble Bloud, to have had daily before his eyes the dismal Spectacle of his enslavʼd undone Country, and to have livʼd in perpetual fears of being made a Sacrifice himself. But it pleased that God who alloteth to Atheists and Rebels a portion with the Hypocrite, to Rescue His Majesty from the Paws of these Bloudy Miscreants, and to lay both Parties of the Conspiracy under the same Fate and Disappointment.

Which brings me to my fourth and last observation, the Folly and Impiety of Treasonable Attempts. For notwithstanding their *Nolumus*, He whom they devoted to Slaughter do's and shall Reign over them.

That good Kings should be the more immediate Care of God, seems agreeable to the Oeconomy of His Providence, and is confirmʼd by Examples in all Ages. For They are His anointed, His Vice-ge-

rents, ſet over us by His Appointment, and in theirs is involv'd the Fate of particular men. And therefore their publick Sacred Character entitles them to a ſpecial Right in the Divine Providence. Of this truth, our Gracious King has been a very rare Example through the whole Courſe of His Life; never did any Righteous King receive more ſtrange and miraculous Deliverances, nor He himſelf ever a Greater, than this laſt, when Mercy was turn'd into Judgement, and the Dreadfull Fire at *Newmarket*, became to Him a Tower of Salvation. Which conſideration alone was enough to have deterr'd any, but ſuch bold Sons of *Anak*, who were not afraid to become Fighters againſt God, from attempting the Life of a Prince, who had been hitherto ſo wonderfully preſerv'd.

But He ſhall Reign over them; Firſt in Judgement; in a legal Execution of thoſe Bloudy Conſpirators who would have murthered Him. They muſt ſuffer, or He cannot be ſafe: Mercy would here prove Cruelty, Pardon an affront to Juſtice, and the higheſt Ingratitude to Heaven. They are now under the command of thoſe Laws which they would have deſtroy-

deſtroyed, under the hands of thoſe Judges whom they had deſtin'd to Slaughter; and every Judge muſt remember that He is the Miniſter of God, a Revenger to execute wrath upon him that doth evil. That which ſeems truly deplorable in their Fate, is the execrable Treaſon for which they die, and the Hardneſs and Impenitence which accompanies them at their Deaths. And wo be to thoſe wretched Guides, who led them into both; thoſe Betrayers of Souls, who inſtead of diſpoſing them to Chriſtian Confeſſion, Repentance and Reſignation, have caus'd them to Publiſh ſuch Juſtifications as ſeem written with Deſign to incite their Accomplices to do the Work of the Conſpiracy here, whilſt they are anſwering for it in the other world: this conſideration makes the Hearts of all good Chriſtians ake. For never did any Criminals ſuffer for a more Flagitious Crime, upon clearer Evidence, fuller Conviction, fairer Tryal, juſter Condemnation, or fall under a more mercifull Execution, one of them receiving that mitigation of his Sentence, which He had formerly denyed to be in the Power of the King to grant. And therefore we muſt believe thoſe men

men are given over to believe a Lye, who impudently cry up their Innocency, and boaſt their Martyrdom. This can only demonſtrate the Incorrigible malignity of the Faction, and awaken the Magiſtrate into a vigorous Execution of the Laws againſt ſuch Boldneſs, as in the very Diſcovery and Proſecution of a Fanatick Conſpiracy, dares juſtifie Treaſon and Canonize Traytors.

And therefore Secondly, He ſhall Reign over them, in making a right improvement of this great Advantage which God hath put into His hands. The wonderfull Deliverances He has already receiv'd, do plainly ſay, that He is ſtill reſerv'd for ſome extraordinary Work in the world. And from His laſt miraculous Eſcape, we may eaſily Preſage what mighty Acts He ſhall perform for theſe Kingdoms in Particular. Now ſhall it be in His Power to ſubdue that Peſtilence of Puritaniſm, which for above theſe hundred Years has raged in this Nation, to cruſh the Seeds, and deſtroy the very Principles of Schiſm. To Him it is reſerv'd to bring the Church of *England* up to thoſe Glorious Heights, that She

She ſhall appear the Envy of *Rome*, and the Terrour of *Europe*. To ſettle the Monarchy upon ſo firm a Baſis, that it ſhall be no more ſhaken by Republican Rage. His Sacred Perſon ſhall be no longer lyable to Violence, nor His Subjects to Oppreſſion. No more ſhall Majeſty be affronted by the Sawcy Votes of a Seditious Senate, nor we made Priſoners by our Repreſentatives. But long and ſecure ſhall He Reign in the hearts and Affections of His People, and when He returns late to Heaven, leave the Bleſſing of Peace, and a well Eſtabliſh't Crown to His Succeſſor; Poſterity ſhall Praiſe His Memory, and Generations to come ſhall call Him *the Father of His Country*, and *the Mighty Defender of the Faith.*

And it remains that we render unto God Almighty our moſt Solemn Thanks for the Comprehenſive Mercy we this Day Celebrate, in the Deliverance of His Sacred Majeſty, and the Government from the damnable Conſpiracy of Fanatick Rage. And we muſt pray that as God in His infinite Goodneſs has hitherto diſcover'd and defeated their Helliſh Devices, ſo He

He would every day more and more confound their Wicked imaginations. That Justice may overtake those Trayterous Fugitives, whom Mercy could not Reclaim. And let us never more be so far transported with the fears of a *Popish Plot*, as to think our selves secure from a *Fanatick Conspiracy*. This one false step had like to have led us into Destruction. They are both formidable Enemies, and since we are plac'd between two Extreams, common Prudence bids us have a watchfull Eye over both, and not to give a palpable Advantage to the One, by applying all our Force against the Other. At this time the Dissenters appear to me the most Dangerous. For the Papists are comparatively contemptible as to their numbers, their Intereſt is broken, we have severe Penal Laws in force against them, and those Laws in no danger of a Repeal, since both their Peers and Commons are made uncapable of Sitting in Parliament. But the Dissenters are formidable as to their numbers, they boast themselves in their strength, they are Restless in their Attempts, and Implacable in their Dispoſi-

positions. And it is very memorable that we should on the same day of the Month observe a Day of Thanksgiving for the Deliverance of the Church and Defender of our Faith from a Fanatick Conspiracy, on which the Rebellious Commons in 41 first publish't their Order in Derogation of the Common-Prayer Book, and for the suspension of the Laws Ecclesiastical, of which Violation our late Martyred Sovereign of ever Blessed Memory so often and sensibly complains in His Declaration of Aug. 12. 42. *Wonderful art thou in thy ways O God!* and *thy Paths are past finding out.*

In a word then, as we are thankfull to God for the Preservation of His Majesty hitherto, so let us implore His Protection over Him for the time to come, that He may daily receive fresh Accessions of strength and Splendour, and be recompenc'd *for the times, wherein He hath suffered Adversity.* And let us evermore pay to so Gracious a King, and so much Beloved, of our utmost Expressions of Duty, Love and Obedience. Let us Esteem

and Honour Him as the Gift of God, and receive Him as a new Preſent from Heaven.

O Lord ſave the King,
And Bleſs thine Anointed;
Send Him help from thy Holy Hill,
And evermore mightily defend Him.
Let the Enemy have no Advantage over Him,
Nor the Wicked approach to hurt Him.

Which God of His infinite Mercy grant through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, To whom with the Father and the Holy Ghoſt, three Perſons, and one God, be given all Glory, Praiſe and Dominion henceforth and for evermore. *Amen.*

THE END.